



pennsylvania
DEPARTMENT OF MILITARY
AND VETERANS AFFAIRS

BENEFITS AND SERVICES FOR VETERANS AND THEIR BENEFICIARIES IN PENNSYLVANIA



**PENNSYLVANIA CARES FOR ITS VETERANS,
THEIR SPOUSES AND CHILDREN.**

www.dmva.pa.gov

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DISABLED VETERANS' REAL ESTATE TAX EXEMPTION



Any honorably discharged Veteran who is a resident of Pennsylvania shall be exempt from the payment of all real estate taxes levied upon any building, including up to five acres of land upon which it stands, provided that all eligibility criteria is met.

Eligibility:

- Must be a resident of Pennsylvania
- Honorable Discharge
- Served during established war service dates as determined by the U.S. Dept. of Veterans Affairs
- Must be blind or paraplegic or has sustained the loss of two or more limbs, or has a service-connected disability declared by the U.S. Dept. of Veterans Affairs to be a total or 100% permanent disability
- Dwelling is owned solely by the Veteran or as an estate in the entirety
- Veteran must occupy the real estate as his/her principal dwelling
- Veteran must demonstrate a financial need
- Upon the death of a qualified Veteran, tax exemption may pass on to the unmarried surviving spouse if financial need can be shown.

Application:

Contact the County Director of Veterans Affairs in the county you reside to apply for this program.

VETERANS' TEMPORARY ASSISTANCE

Provides temporary financial aid to Veterans and their beneficiaries who reside in Pennsylvania for the necessities of life (food, shelter, fuel, clothing and medical expenses). If eligible, a Veteran or their beneficiary can qualify for an amount not to exceed \$1,600 in a twelve month period.

Eligibility:

- Must be a resident of Pennsylvania
- Must demonstrate a financial need
- Must show either a loss of income or increase in expenses that renders the applicant temporarily unable to provide themselves with the necessities of living
- Must have a discharge of Honorable or Under Honorable Conditions after a period of active duty, other than active duty for training or has a service-connected disability rating as certified by the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs

Surviving Dependent Eligibility:

- Upon the recent death of a Veteran, their unmarried spouse is eligible provided the Veteran would have qualified prior to his/her death
- Death Certificate for the Veteran must be included with the application
- Must provide marriage certificate for spouse, birth certificate for children, and the Veteran's birth certificate for parents

Application:

Contact the County Director of Veterans Affairs in the county you reside or see an accredited representative of a Veterans Service Organization to apply for this program.

BLIND VETERANS' PENSION

Provides for a pension of \$150 per month.

Eligibility:

- Served in the military honorably
- Resident of Pennsylvania upon entering the military
- Suffered a service-related injury or incurred a disease which resulted in loss of vision:
 - Visual acuity with the best correcting lens is 3/60
or
10/200 or equivalent, or less normal vision in the better eye
 - Includes circumstances where the widest diameter of the visual field of the better eye has contracted to an angular distance of not greater than 20°

Application:

Contact the County Director of Veterans Affairs in the county you reside or see an accredited representative of a Veterans Service Organization to apply for this program.

AMPUTEE AND PARALYZED VETERANS' PENSION

Provides for a pension of \$150 per month.

Eligibility:

- Served in the military honorably
- Resident of PA upon entering the military
- Suffered a service connected injury or disease resulting in the loss or loss of use of two or more extremities
- At least 40% disability compensation rating or higher in each limb as determined by the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs

Application:

Contact the County Director of Veterans Affairs in the county you reside or see an accredited representative of a Veterans Service Organization to apply for this program.

EDUCATIONAL GRATUITY



The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania provides financial assistance (up to \$500 per term/semester up to eight semesters) to children of honorably discharged Veterans who have service-connected disabilities and served during a period of war or armed conflict or children of Veterans who die or died in service during a period of war or armed conflict.

Veteran Eligibility:

- Died in service during a period of war or armed conflict,
or
- Honorable Discharge
- Served during established war service dates as determined by the U.S. Dept. of Veterans Affairs
- Veteran must have a **100%** permanent and total service-connected disability rating by the U.S. Dept. of Veterans Affairs

Child Eligibility:

- Must be between the ages of 16 and 23, living within Pennsylvania five years prior to application and must attend an approved school within the state
- Applicant must demonstrate a financial need

Application:

Contact the County Director of Veterans Affairs in the county you reside or see an accredited representative of a Veterans Service Organization to apply for this program.

PENNSYLVANIA VETERANS' HOMES



Pennsylvania offers its eligible Veterans or surviving spouses residency in one of the six extended-care facilities throughout the state. The varying levels of care provided include personal care, skilled nursing care, and memory care.

Eligibility:

- Honorable Discharge
- Served in the U.S. or PA Armed Forces
- Resident at time of entry or current resident of Pennsylvania

Application:

For detailed instructions on how to apply, visit www.dmva.pa.gov and click on 'Veterans Homes' or call the Home you are interested in directly.

Hollidaysburg Veterans' Home (Hollidaysburg)

Phone: (814) 696-5201 / www.hvh.pa.gov

Pennsylvania Soldiers' and Sailors' Home (Erie)

Phone: (814) 871-4531 / www.pssh.pa.gov

Southeastern Veterans' Center (Spring City)

Phone: (610) 948-2400 / www.sevc.pa.gov

Gino J. Merli Veterans' Center (Scranton)

Phone: (570) 961-4300 / www.gmvc.pa.gov

Southwestern Veterans' Center (Pittsburgh)

Phone: (412) 665-6706 / www.swvc.pa.gov

Delaware Valley Veterans' Home (Philadelphia)

Phone: (215) 856-2700 / www.dvvh.pa.gov



Activities at the Homes include:

Fishing Tournaments

Sporting Events

Veterans Homes Week

Riverboat Rides



WE ARE committed to fostering active lifestyles in the Pennsylvania Veterans Homes!

THE PENNSYLVANIA VETERANS' TRUST FUND (VTF)



The mission of the Veterans' Trust Fund (VTF) is to assist and support Pennsylvania Veterans and their families. The VTF issues grants to statewide charitable organizations that assist Veterans, Veterans Service Organizations and County Directors of Veterans Affairs to assist Veterans in need of shelter and necessities of living. Learn more at www.vtf.pa.gov.

Funding Sources:

- Sale of 'Honoring Our Veterans' and Women Veteran license plates
- Grants or gifts from public and private entities
- Voluntary contributions from people applying for or renewing their Pennsylvania driver's license/photo ID card and vehicle registration.

If you would like to make a contribution to the VTF, please send a check or money order made payable to "Pennsylvania Veterans' Trust Fund" and mail to:

DMVA Office for Veterans Affairs

Bldg. 0-47 Fort Indiantown Gap
Annville, PA 17003-5002

State Employees can donate to the VTF through the State Employee Combined Appeal (SECA) by choosing charity #4401-0099

HONORING OUR VETERANS LICENSE PLATE



You don't need to be a Veteran to show your support of Veterans by purchasing the 'Honoring Our Veterans' license plate. This plate is available for motorcycles, passenger cars and light trucks up to 10,000 pounds and costs \$35. Fifteen dollars from the sale of each license plate goes to the Veterans' Trust Fund.



The Honoring Our Women Veterans registration plate became available on February 21, 2019. Fifteen dollars from every "Honoring Our Women Veterans" registration plate sold will benefit the Veterans Trust Fund, which will be used for programs and resources that assist women veterans. To apply for this registration plate, please complete Form MV-914 (PDF), "Application for Honoring Our Veterans Registration Plate."

Application for Honoring Our Veterans License Plate / Honoring Womens Veteran:

To apply for this plate, complete Pennsylvania Dept. of Transportation Form MV-914, "Application for Honoring Our Veterans License Plate" available at www.dmv.state.pa.us/license_plates/special_fund.shtml.

Contact the County Director of Veterans Affairs in the county you reside or see an accredited representative of a Veterans Service Organization to apply for this program.

PA VETCONNECT

PA VETCONNECT is an exciting new Regional Outreach Initiative that will be launched in early 2020 by the Department of Military and Veterans Affairs (DMVA),

Pennsylvania is home to nearly 800,000 veterans – the 4th largest veteran population in the nation. As DMVA serves these veterans of Pennsylvania, we are consistently evaluating how to connect with every veteran in the commonwealth. DMVA recognizes the need to provide coordinated outreach, case management, and referral services for veterans in need. While DMVA, through its Office of Veterans Affairs, provides a number of programs and benefits for veterans, there are still areas where we need to collaborate with other departments, agencies, and community partners to fully address the needs of our veterans' community. These areas include, but are not limited to, unemployment, homelessness, mental wellness, Substance Use Disorders (SUD), post-traumatic stress, and traumatic brain injuries. We hope to address these gaps through creative inter-agency coordination and community partnerships. DMVA has observed that there are many communities and organizations that are available and willing to assist veterans with many different services. One-stop customer service will provide a more focused and efficient method of informing service members, veterans, and their families of the available resources within defined regions. Our dedicated staff will establish and maintain relationships in communities for each region.

Outreach coordinators will engage with County Directors of Veterans Affairs, Veterans Service Organizations, and other stakeholders to foster collaboration and participate in work groups with these organizations to identify and establish veterans' services and programs.

DMVA is looking forward to serving all of our veterans, families and surviving family members through this new outreach initiative when it is launched in early 2020.

MILITARY FAMILY RELIEF ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (MFRAP)

Provides emergency financial assistance to eligible PA service members and their eligible family members, and must have a direct and immediate financial need as a result of circumstances beyond their control.



Eligibility:

The program applies to Pennsylvania residents who:

- Serve 30 or more consecutive days of active duty with the U.S. Armed Forces or its reserve components
- Serve 30 or more consecutive days of active duty or state active duty in the PA Army or Air National Guard
- Are a member in good standing of any reserve component of the U.S. Armed Forces, including the PA National Guard, for a period of three years after release from a tour of active duty, authorized under Title 10 or Title 32, U.S. Code (other than active duty for training), of 30 or more consecutive days duration, when the need for assistance is directly related to the member's performance of active duty
- Are a member in good standing of the PA National Guard for a period of three years after release from a tour of state active duty of 30 or more consecutive days duration, when the need for assistance is directly related to the member's performance of state active duty
- Are a former member of the U.S. Armed Forces of the United States or its reserve components, including the PA National Guard for a period of four years after a medical discharge for a medical disability incurred in Line of Duty and the reasons arising to the discharge did not exist prior to the member's military service, and meets the other requirements as shown in the Guidelines, Para 4 v. 1 through 6

Funding Source:

- State Income Tax refund check off

Application:

For detailed instructions on how to apply visit www.mfrap.pa.gov, call toll free (866) 292-7201, contact the County Director of Veterans Affairs in the county you reside, or see an accredited representative of a Veterans Service Organization to apply for this program.

THE PENNSYLVANIA VETERANS' MEMORIAL



The Pennsylvania Veterans' Memorial is located at the Indiantown Gap National Cemetery, Lebanon County, to honor Pennsylvania Veterans of all eras.

If you would like to make a tax-deductible contribution to help maintain this Memorial, please send a check or money order made payable to "Pennsylvania Veterans' Memorial Trust Fund" and mail to:

DMVA Office for Veterans Affairs

Bldg. 0-47 Fort Indiantown Gap
Annville, PA 17003-5002

To order an inscribed granite memorial cruciform to be placed at this Memorial visit www.veterans.pa.gov, then select 'Pennsylvania Veterans' Memorial' or call toll-free (800) 547-2838.



VETERANS SERVICE OFFICER SUPPORT

The Department of Military and Veterans Affairs offers support to Veterans with their claims for state and federal benefits as well as supporting County Veterans Services Officers with their claims for Veterans benefits. Veterans may call any of our field offices to speak with an accredited Veterans Service Officer.

Fort Indiantown Gap

Department of Military and Veterans Affairs

Edward Martin Hall, Fort Indiantown Gap
Anville, PA 17003-5002

Phone: (717) 861-8910

Fax: (717) 861-8589

Toll Free: (800) 547-2838

Philadelphia Field Office

Veterans Administration Center

P.O. Box 42938
Philadelphia, PA 19101-2938

Phone: (215) 381-3040

Fax: (215) 381-3492

Toll Free: (866) 754-8637



Pittsburgh Field Office

William S. Moorhead Federal Building

1000 Liberty Avenue, Suite 1612
Pittsburgh, PA 15222-4003

Phone: (412) 395-6225

Fax: (412) 395-6224

Toll Free: (866) 754-8636

Veterans Service Organizations are also available to provide assistance with claims for benefits. Service Organizations do not require membership to provide claims assistance.

You Will Never Be Charged For Assistance!

VETERANS MOBILE OUTREACH



Accredited Veterans Service Officers will provide information and assistance to Veterans and family members who may be eligible for benefits through the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs. Such benefits might include service connected disability compensation, improved pensions, death pensions, VA health care benefits, burial benefits, education benefits, vocational rehabilitation and much more.

In order to request a van for your event, please complete the Van Request Form and submit it six months but not less than 45 days prior to your event using the email, fax number or address listed on this page. Every effort will be made to fulfill your organization's request; however, due to demand we cannot guarantee every request. If alternate dates are available please indicate this on the form.

Requests with less than a 30-day turnaround will be handled on a space available basis only. We will notify you as soon as possible if we can grant your request.

To park and set up the Mobile Veterans Outreach Van an area of 40 feet by 15 feet is required. To avoid the need of running the generator a 30-AMP electrical service is required (RV connection) if possible.

Contact Us:

Mobile Veterans Outreach Van

DVMA Office for Veterans Affairs

Bldg. 0-47 Fort Indiantown Gap

Annaville, PA 17003-5002

Phone: (717) 861-8905

FAX: (717) 861-8589

Email: RA-MVOUTREACH@pa.gov

VETERANS REGISTRY

The PA VETERANS REGISTRY— www.register.dmva.pa.gov — is an online application that allows veterans, family members and people who work with veterans to connect with DMVA to request information related to the valuable state benefits, programs and services offered. All registrants' information will be shared with other Commonwealth of Pennsylvania agencies in order to facilitate local connections. By connecting with DMVA, registrants can also opt-in to receive timely communications such as newsletters, press releases and program updates. The PA VETERANS REGISTRY is DMVA's first step in a long-term strategy to achieve a higher level of communication with our veterans as well as our partners who support them.

MILITARY AWARDS FOR VALOR



America has a time-honored tradition of recognizing the acts of valor performed by Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen and Marines. The lists included at <http://valor.defense.gov>. Share in this tradition and honor those individuals awarded our nation's most prestigious valor awards.

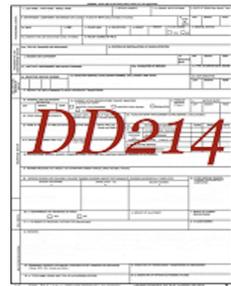
DD 214/215 PROGRAM & RECORDS REQUEST PROGRAM

Documents so important as these should be kept in a safe place. We highly recommend that veterans record their discharges/DD214s with their County Courthouse so they are able to obtain free certified copies for the remainder of their life and so they are available to next-of-kin upon their death. The DD 214 provides the member and the service with a concise record of a period of service with the Armed Forces at the time of the member's separation, discharge or change in military status. In addition, the form is an authoritative source of information for both governmental agencies and the Armed Forces for purposes of employment, benefit and reenlistment data. If you do not currently have a copy of your Certificate of Release or Discharge, DD Form 214, now is the time to obtain it before you need it.

PENNSYLVANIA NATIONAL GUARD RECORDS

Pennsylvania Army and Air National Guard maintain a state file of service after 1985. Information from these state files varies but should include records of enlistment, discharge and other administrative actions. The veteran or next of kin of a deceased veteran can obtain copies of available information by providing a Record Request Form, mailed to:

**PA Dept. of Military and Veterans
Affairs**
Attention: Guard Retirement Services
(Insert ARMY or AIR)
Bldg. 14-99, Fort Indiantown Gap
Annville, PA 17003-5002



Questions about Pennsylvania ARMY National Guard records requests can be directed to (717) 861-9430

Questions about Pennsylvania AIR National Guard records requests can be directed to (717) 861-8624.

The Pennsylvania State Archives maintains evidence of service for Pennsylvania Military units during the period 1775-1985.

OTHER STATE BENEFITS

State Educational Grants and Financial Aid for Veterans

Toll Free: (800) 692-7392

Veterans Preference in State Civil Service

Civil Service Commission

Phone: (717) 787-6039

Birth and Death Records

Division of Vital Records

Phone: (724) 656-3100

Veterans License Plates/Placards/License

Department of Transportation

Toll Free: (800) 932-4600

Veterans Employment

Contact a Veterans Employment Representative at a Pennsylvania CareerLink office for free job counseling, training referrals, and placement services for Veterans.

Free Hunting/Fishing/Fur Trapper License for Certain Disabled Veterans

Application can be made at your county treasurer.

Antlerless Deer License

Application can be made at a county treasurer of their choice, regardless of the county allocation.

COUNTY DIRECTORS OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

COUNTY	OFFICE PHONE	COUNTY	OFFICE PHONE
Adams	717-337-9835	Lackawanna	570-963-6778
Allegheny	412-621-4357	Lancaster	717-299-7920
Armstrong	724-548-3441	Lawrence	724-656-2180
Beaver	724-770-4452	Lebanon	717-228-4422
Bedford	814-623-4848	Lehigh	610-782-3295
Berks	610-378-5601	Luzerne	570-706-3960
Blair	814-693-3160	Lycoming	570-327-2365
Bradford	570-265-1704	McKean	814-887-3241
Bucks	215-345-3307	Mercer	724-662-7511/7512
Butler	724-284-5352	Mifflin	717-248-6421
Cambria	814-472-1590	Monroe	570-517-3187
Cameron	814-389-5972	Montgomery	610-278-3285
Carbon	570-325-3986	Montour	570-271-3061
Centre	814-355-6812	Northampton	610-829-4877
Chester	610-344-6375	Northumberland	570-988-4213
Clarion	814-226-4000 x2601	Perry	717-582-2131
Clearfield	814-765-2642 x3010	Philadelphia	215-686-3256
Clinton	570-893-4339	Pike	570-296-3563
Columbia	570-387-6501 opt #2	Potter	814-274-8290 x210
Crawford	814-333-7314	Schuylkill	570-628-1400
Cumberland	717-240-6178	Snyder	570-374-0181
Dauphin	717-780-6356/6357	Somerset	814-445-1551
Delaware	610-891-4646	Sullivan	570-946-7677
Elk	814-776-5370	Susquehanna	570-278-4600 x3045
Erie	814-451-6265	Tioga	570-723-8141
Fayette	724-430-1241	Union	570-524-8676
Forest	814-755-3404	Venango	814-432-9780
Franklin	717-263-4326	Warren	814-728-3478
Fulton	717-485-6873	Washington	724-228-6865
Greene	724-852-5275	Wayne	570-253-5970 x3114
Huntingdon	814-643-1360	Westmoreland	724-830-3530
Indiana	724-465-3815	Wyoming	570-996-2258
Jefferson	814-849-3618	York	717-771-9218
Juniata	717-436-7728		

OFFICE OF VETERANS AFFAIRS



OUR MISSION

To increase awareness of all benefits for Pennsylvania Veterans and their dependents, to provide the best advice and assistance in obtaining benefits and to provide the highest quality care to the residents of our state Veterans' Homes.



OFFICE OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

Main Office

Department of Military and Veterans Affairs
Edward Martin Hall, Fort Indiantown Gap
Annville, PA 17003-5002
Phone: (717) 861-8910
Fax: (717) 861-8589
Toll Free: (800) 547-2838

Philadelphia Field Office

Veterans Administration Center
P.O. Box 42938
Philadelphia, PA 19101-2938
Phone: (215) 381-3040
Fax: (215) 381-3492
Toll Free: (866) 754-8637

Pittsburgh Field Office

Wm. S. Moorhead Federal Building
1000 Liberty Avenue, Suite 1612
Pittsburgh, PA 15222-4003
Phone: (412) 395-6225
Fax: (412) 395-6224
Toll Free: (866) 754-8636

Courtesy of